

Preliminary Amendment  
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include those described in International Application No. PCT/US98/16387, entitled, "Novel Exendin Agonist Compounds," filed August 6, 1998, claiming the benefit of United States Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/055,404, filed August 8, 1997; International Application No. PCT/US98/24210 entitled, "Novel Exendin Agonist Compounds," filed November 13, 1998, claiming priority on United States Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/065,442, filed November 14, 1997; and International Application No. PCT/US98/24273 entitled, "Novel Exendin Agonist Compounds," filed November 13, 1998, claiming priority on United States Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/066,029, filed November 14, 1997; all of which enjoy common ownership with the present application and all of which are incorporated by this reference into the present application as though fully set forth herein. Additional preferred exendin agonist compounds are those described and claimed in United States Provisional Application Serial No. 60/132,018, entitled, "Modified Exendins and Exendin Agonists," filed April 30, 1999, which enjoys common ownership with the present application and which is incorporated by this reference into the present application as though fully set forth herein. Preferred exendin agonists are exendin analogs and derivatives. By exendin analog or derivative is meant a variant of the exendin molecule. The variant may be a naturally occurring allelic variant of an exendin or a non-naturally occurring variant of an exendin, such as those identified herein. Variants include deletion variants, substitution variants, and addition or insertion variants. Exendin analogs or derivatives will normally have an activity of about 1% to about 10,000% of the activity of the exendin of which it is an analog or derivative. Other exendin analogs or derivatives will preferably have an activity about 10% to about 1,000% of the activity of the exendin of which it is an analog or derivative, more preferably an activity about 50% to about 500% of the activity of the exendin of which it is an analog or derivative. Most preferred exendin analogs or derivatives will have at least about 50% sequence similarity to the exendin of which it is an analog or derivative. Still more preferred exendin analogs or derivatives will have at least about 70%, or at least about 90%, or 95% sequence similarity to the exendin of which it is an analog or derivative.—

#### REMARKS

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121, a marked up copy of the presently amended specification paragraph is appended hereto. Additions are noted by underlining. Deletions are noted by bracketing.